

Art Unit: 2625

Suspension of Action, At the Initiation of the Office

1. The instant application has a specification that is identical to one or more patents that are currently under reexamination. The issues present in the reexamination proceedings are related to the issues in the instant application. The final decisions/determinations made at the end of the reexamination proceedings are likely to affect the outcome of the application. To this end, it is appropriate to suspend prosecution on the instant application.

Per applicant's request, however, prosecution in 08/470,571 (INTE) and 08/487,526 (MULT) will not be suspended in order to pursue the issues that have been fully developed in these applications. The outcome of these issues is also likely to affect the outcome of the present application.

37 CFR 1.103(e) provides that the Office will notify applicant if the Office suspends action in an application on its own initiative.

Accordingly, *Ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX (6) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS LETTER. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Faile, whose telephone number is (703) 305-4380. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays. The fax number for this Group is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

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7/9/04